

ZEM

~~TOP SECRET~~ SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD

WH30078

TOHAK 117

25X1

DELIVER TO WINSTON LORD FOR DR KISSINGER

JANUARY 12, 1973

25X1

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

ARMY, OSD & DOS reviews completed

SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

MORI PER C05139516

ADDITIONAL INDOCHINA DEVELOPMENTS: IN CAMBODIA, COMMUNIST FORCES LAUNCHED ATTACKS AGAINST FOUR CAMBODIAN ARMY POSITIONS ON ROUTE 1 EAST OF NEAK LUONG. THE GOVERNMENT UNITS WERE FORCED TO PULL BACK TO THE TOWN, WHICH ALLOWED THE COMMUNISTS TO ADVANCE SEVERAL MILES UP ROUTE 1. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY CONDUCTED ATTACKS-BY-FIRE AGAINST THE NAVY BASE AND AIRSTRIP AT NEAK LUONG. THE ENEMY HAS ALSO TAKEN NUMEROUS COMPANY-SIZE POSITIONS ALONG THE EAST BANK OF THE MEKONG RIVER, AND SEVERAL ISLANDS IN THE RIVER ARE UNDER COMMUNIST CONTROL. THESE MOVES NOT ONLY INCREASE THE THREAT OF ATTACKS AGAINST CONVOYS MOVING UP THE MEKONG, BUT THEY ALSO ENABLE THE ENEMY TO MOVE SUPPLIES INTO SOUTH VIETNAM ALONG THE LOGISTIC CORRIDOR THAT EXTENDS THROUGH THIS AREA. INITIAL CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 150 FRIENDLY KILLED, 40 WOUNDED, AND 300 MISSING.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

NAISSANCE PLATFORM, LAUNCHING A DRONE NORTH OF THE 20TH PARALLEL, WAS SHOT DOWN BY AN F-4 FIGHTER. THE F-4S WERE FLYING MIG CAP JUST SOUTH OF THE 20TH PARALLEL WHEN THE MIG REACTION WAS REPORTED. THE F-4 WAS THEN VECTORED AGAINST THE MIG AND DOWNED IT AT APPROXIMATELY 20 DEGREES, 27 MINUTES OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS.

DEPLOYMENT OF TANKS THROUGH SOUTHERN NVN AND LAOS CONTINUES: NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMORED UNITS ARE TRANSITING SOUTHERN QUANG BINH PROVINCE, NORTH VIETNAM, AND SOUTHERN LAOS AT AN INCREASED TEMPO. COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT BETWEEN JANUARY 7 AND 10, AT LEAST EIGHT TANK GROUPS HAVE BEEN DETECTED MOVING SOUTH. AT LEAST THREE OF THE TANK GROUPS, WHICH PROBABLY COMPRISE ELEMENTS OF AN INTEGRAL ARMOR REGIMENT, MOVED THROUGH THE BAN KARAI PASS AND INTO THE BINH TRAM 32 AREA, WHERE THEY REPORTEDLY ENCOUNTERED FUEL SHORTAGES AND SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS. THE OTHER TANK GROUPS HAVE ALSO REQUESTED PERMISSION TO STOP OVER IN THAT AREA.

SAIGON DENIES RECLASSIFICATION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS: SOUTH VIETNAM'S VICE MINISTER OF INTERIOR INFORMALLY DENIED REPORTS THAT COMMUNIST OFFENDERS IN GVN PRISONS ARE BEING RECLASSIFIED AS COMMON CRIMINALS TO PREVENT THEIR RELEASE IN THE EVENT OF A CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT. THE VICE MINISTER EXPLAINED THAT MANY COMMUNIST OFFENDERS INITIALLY SENTENCED UNDER AN TRI PROCEDURES WERE LATER BROUGHT TO TRIAL BEFORE MILITARY FIELD COURTS FOR TERRORIST ACTS OR OTHER VIOLATIONS OF GVN LAW. HE INSISTED, HOWEVER, THAT THESE PRISONERS REMAINED CLASSIFIED AS COMMUNIST OFFENDERS. (GVN PRISON POPULATION FIGURES AS OF OCTOBER 31 SHOW APPROXIMATELY 4,000 OF THE 21,400 COMMUNIST OFFENDERS WERE SENTENCED BY MILITARY COURTS.) EMBASSY SAIGON COMMENTS THAT RECLASSIFICATION IS TAKEING PLACE IN SOME CASES BUT EXPECTS THE GVN WILL CONTINUE TO DENY THE PRACTICE, EVEN THOUGH CRIMINAL CHARGES WILL BE STRESSED IN CURRENT DETENTIONS.

MCGOVERN SAYS HENRY KISSINGER LIED: SENATOR GEORGE MCGOVERN SAYS HE THINKS YOU LIED WHEN YOU TOLD THE NATION THAT "PEACE IS AT HAND," THE BOSTON GLOBE REPORTED TODAY. THE NEWSPAPER SAID MCGOVERN MADE THE ASSERTION THURSDAY AT A LUNCHEON WITH GLOBE EDITORS. MCGOVERN TOLD THE EDITORS THAT YOUR "PEACE IS AT HAND" WAS A FINAL FACTOR IN HIS DEFEAT 12 DAYS LATER. "I THINK THAT HE KNEW THAT THE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL THIEU WERE NOT ABOUT TO ACCEPT THE AGREEMENT WHICH HE HAD TENTATIVELY REACHED WITH HANOI," MCGOVERN SAID.

25X1
25X1

1

THE EVENING STAR AND WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS: ANDREW BOROWIEC REPORTS THAT A WIND OF OPTIMISM ABOUT VIETNAM PEACE PROSPECTS BLEW ACROSS PARIS TODAY WITHOUT ANY SUBSTANTIAL PROOF OF ITS JUSTIFICATION. IT WAS FUELED BY A FEW SMILES FROM YOU, A PUBLIC HANDSHAKE OR TWO, Milder COMMUNIST LANGUAGE AT THE FORMAL PEACE TALKS YESTERDAY, AND, ABOVE ALL, BY AN ENCOURAGING STATEMENT IN MINSK BY BREZHNEV.

GOVERNMENT, LONG DISPLEASED WITH THE PROSPECTIVE LIST OF
CEASE-FIRE SUPERVISORS, IS THINKING OF PROPOSING NEW COUN-
TRIES, VIETNAMESE SOURCES SAID TODAY. THE SOURCES SAID
SAIGON IS THINKING ABOUT A LIST CONTAINING ONLY NEUTRAL
COUNTRIES, PERHAPS CANADA, FINLAND, SWITZERLAND, AND AUSTRIA.

SENATE DEMOCRATS, UPSET OVER WHITE HOUSE SECRECY ON VIETNAM
AND THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS, WARNED YESTERDAY THAT THE CON-
FIRMATION OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES COULD BE DELAYED IF THE
NIXON ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TO DRAW A CURTAIN AROUND THE
PROCESSES OF DECISION-MAKING.

WILLIAM CLEMENTS, JR., IN A HEARING OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE YESTERDAY ON HIS NOMINATION AS DEPUTY DEFENSE SECRE-
TARY, SAID HE IS NOT SURE, IN HIS OWN MIND, WHETHER HE WOULD
FAVORZ AUX USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM. CLEMENTS
ALSO SAID HE FAVORED "SUPERIORITY" OVER THE SOVIET UNION RATHER
THAN "SUFFICIENCY."

AN EDITORIAL COMMENTS THAT THE OVERTURE FROM EAST GERMANY ABOUT
ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. IS TO BE WEL-
COMED AS A CONFIRMATION OF THE NEAR-INEVITABILITY OF EAST-WEST
DETENTE. THE STAR-NEWS BELIEVES WE CAN SPEED THINGS UP, PER-
HAPS, IN THE POINTS WE MAKE LEADING TOWARD REGULAR DIPLOMATIC
CONTACTS.

ON THE EDITORIAL PAGE, GEORGE SHERMAN ASKS: DOES THE NIXON
DOCTRINE FOR GREATER SELF-RELIANCE OF ALLIES BRING WITH IT
THE GROWTH OF AUTHORITARIAN REGIMES IN ASIA? SHERMAN BELIEVES
THE ANSWER IS MIXED.

~~345-8,16-3, (943)~~ THE PHILIPPINES,

~~CERTAINLY IN KOREA~~

THAILAND, AND SOUTH VIETNAM THE ANSWER IS YES. BUT IN JAPAN,
THINGS HAVE GONE THE OTHER WAY. IN TAIWAN, NEW PARLIAMENTARY
ELECTIONS HAVE SHOWN THE GLIMMER OF GREATER REPRESENTATION FOR
THE NATIVE POPULATION.